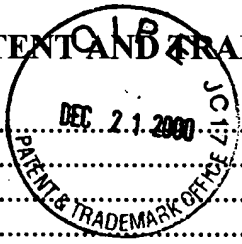


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.09/620,745
Filing Date7/20/00
Inventorship Weise
Applicant Microsoft Corporation
Attorney's Docket No. MS1-543US
Title: Ranking Parser for a Natural Language Processing System



DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled "Ranking Parser for a Natural Language Processing System," referenced above.

I have reviewed and understand the content of the above-identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATIONS: no applications for foreign patents or inventor's certificates have been filed prior to the date of execution of this declaration.

Power of Attorney

I appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and transact all future business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected with this application:

1 Lewis C. Lee, Reg. No. 34,656; Daniel L. Hayes, Reg. No. 34,618; Allan T.
2 Sponseller, Reg. 38,318; Steven R. Sponseller, Reg. No. 39,384; James R.
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11
12 All statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all
13 statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that
14 these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the
15 like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of
16 Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statement may
17 jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued therefrom.

18
19 * * * * *

20 Full name of inventor: David N. Weise

21 Inventor's Signature David N. Weise Date: 10 Nov 2000

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